

# The Denomination, The Churches and Baptists' Confessions of Faith

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Much is being said about the relationship of conventions and associations to the local churches, especially in the realm of doctrinal standards and creedal statements.

It has often been said that Baptists have no creed but the Bible. There is

a sense in which this is true. There is another sense in which it has never been true.

It is true that the Bible has been the basic authority among Baptists since the earliest days, but the Bible must be interpreted in the language of the day, and Baptists have not been diffident in expressing what they believe the Bible teaches in the

realm of basic doctrines. Call it what you will, these are creedal statements.

Certainly since the early part of the 16th century Baptists have been known for their creeds. According to Webster's Dictionary the word "creed" comes from the Latin word "credo," which means, "I believe." It is "a brief statement of belief, or confession of faith."

For at least four centuries Baptists have been known to confess their faith by publishing statements summarizing what they believe the Bible teaches. This has been done in conventions and associations as well as in local churches.

According to the Southern Baptist encyclopedia, confessions of faith among Baptists can be traced back

to John Smyth of England and the Dutch Anabaptists in the first decade of the 17th century. Most Southern Baptist churches have adopted as the true expression of their basic beliefs as to what the Bible teaches, The Philadelphia Confession of 1742 or the New Hampshire Confession of 1833.

These confessions have served as the adhesive element to hold Baptists together in fellowship and mission endeavor. Some are saying that the secret of Baptist unity and effectiveness as a denomination has been the emphasis upon freedom — the recognition of the right of every Baptist to believe what he wants to believe.

Baptists have been strong in their emphasis upon the freedom of each individual to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience without being penalized, restricted or oppressed by the state. But to say that absolute freedom within the denomination is the outstanding characteristic of Baptists or the secret of their unity is to ignore experience and history.

The plain fact is that Baptists have not always held together. There have been at least a dozen or more splits or splinter fragmentations since Baptists began their work in America in

1639. However, it cannot be denied that the majority of Southern Baptists have held together in remarkable fellowship and effectiveness as a denomination.

The real secret of our strength has been a strong common belief. This is the catalyst which has produced whatever unity we have enjoyed through the years.

Unity is meaningless, frail and impotent which does not grow out of a basic common belief. People do not come together in any kind of an organization just for the sake of being together or of being able to announce that they are together. People are drawn together, in the first place, because they have a common belief and a common objective or purpose.

Our Southern Baptist forefathers came together at Augusta, Ga., in 1845, because they felt a common belief in their basic interpretation of Scriptural teaching and because they had a common purpose — the proclamation of this gospel truth to the whole world — a purpose which they felt could be best fulfilled by a cooperative effort on the part of those who held such common beliefs.

Southern Baptists have argued, debated (Continued on page 3)

## The Baptist Record

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### W.M.U. Meeting Set Denver May 31-June 1

DENVER (BP)—Top personnel of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board and SBC Home Mission Board will be featured on the program of the annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) of the Southern Baptist Convention here May 31-June 1.

The WMU Convention will commemorate the 125th anniversary of the organization of both of the mission boards, with sessions on Monday morning, June 1, featuring foreign missions, and on Monday afternoon emphasizing home missions.

Each session will present a glimpse of the past observing the founding of the boards 125 years ago, said Mrs. R. L. Mathis, Waco, Tex., president of the SBC Woman's Missionary Union who released the completed program for the meeting.

Missions strategy for the new decade will be outlined by the two top executives of the mission boards—Baker James Cauthen of the Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, and Arthur B. Rutledge, of the Home Mission Board, Atlanta.

The convention will open Sunday afternoon with a music and missions

Lawrence Welk Show, Norma Zimmer and Jim Roberts. Directing the hymn sing will be Claude H. Rhea Jr., head of the fine arts division of Samford University, Birmingham, Ala.; and Gene Bartlett, music department secretary for Oklahoma Baptists.

Southern Baptist Convention President W. A. Criswell of Dallas will interpret the theme for the convention, "Living the Christ Life."

Foreign Mission Board appointees will also give testimonies, and Bob Tremaine, a home missionary and pastor in Worcester, Mass., will speak during the opening Sunday afternoon session.

Mrs. Mathis pointed out that the Sunday opening date is a departure of scheduling in recent years. The WMU Convention, the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference, and the Southern Baptist Convention's committee on order of business cooperated in planning the new schedule so that the SBC could open on Monday night.

Pastors and other convention goers are invited to join the hymn sing sponsored by Woman's Missionary Union on Sunday afternoon, Mrs. Mathis said.

When the SBC Pastors' Conference opens on Sunday morning, the women's Missionary Union Convention will not meet. The women are asked to attend and support the Pastors' Convention. (Continued on page 3)

### S. S. 'Shaping 70's' Meetings To Be Held

A team of outstanding leaders from the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, along with the staff personnel of the Sunday School Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, will conduct a series of area Sunday School conferences in the state April 13-14.

Bryant M. Cummings, director of the Sunday School Department of the Convention Board, said the theme for the conferences will be "Opportunities for the 70's" and the purpose of the meetings will be to help the Sunday schools in their plans for the 70's.

Those urged to attend the conference most convenient will be pastors, general and department officers and teachers.

The visiting leaders, all from the Sunday School Department, of the Sunday School Board, are as follows: (Continued on page 2)



"And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me" (John 12:32). HMB Photo

## FMB Names Laos As New Field, Adds 7 Missioners

LAKELAND, Fla. (BP) — Seven new missionaries were appointed, and Laos was designated as a new field of mission work by Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board meeting here.

Members of the board, meeting at the Southeast Baptist Church here, voted to seek missionaries to enter Laos as soon as possible.

Though no missionaries to Laos were appointed at this session, the board appointed seven missionaries to Brazil, Korea, Africa and Argentina. They are: Miss Linda Crawford of Bagdad, Fla., appointed for Brazil; Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Sands III of St. Petersburg, Fla., Korea; Mr. and Mrs. Sam G. Turner of Orrick, Mo., Africa (specific country yet undecided); and Mr. and Mrs. Leon S. White of Booneville, N. C., Argentina.

It was the first time in the 125 year history of the board that foreign missionaries had been appointed in a Baptist church outside the board's Richmond headquarters. Ordinarily the board has commissioned missionaries in Richmond and at the two Southern Baptist assemblies in Glorieta, N. M., and Ridgecrest, N. C.

The board departed from this procedure in May of 1969 when it met at the First Baptist Church of Dallas and appointed missionaries in a Dallas coliseum.

The appointment of the seven missionaries pushed the number of the convention's overseas force to 2,495 personnel, and the selection of Laos as a new field boosted the number of countries where they serve to 72.

Missions prospects in Laos had been surveyed in recent months by Foreign Mission Board representatives, including R. Keith Parks, the board's secretary for Southeast Asia.

In a report to the board, Parks sug-

gested that Southern Baptists concentrate their initial efforts in the administrative capital of Laos, Vientiane. He particularly suggested ministries to a new university in that city as a possible beginning point for mission service.

"It doesn't seem rational or spiritual to allow the uncertain political future of Laos to prevent our witnessing to the current generation," Parks said.

In talks with representatives of other Protestant missionary groups in Laos, Southern Baptist have stressed that they would strengthen and complement rather than compete.

Parks said that "relatively little is

being done concerning the spiritual conditions in Laos."

Liberal estimates identify a maximum of 30,000 Christians in Laos, about 1 per cent of the population. Buddhism is the national religion.

Members of the board said: "Entry into Laos is a continuation of many advances expressing our desire to share the gospel of Christ with people of all lands through word and living deed."

"We believe conditions in Southeast Asia call for idespread communication of the message of Christ and we are eager to do everything possible towards this end," Cauthen said.

### At Founding Site

## Home Board Marks 125th Year

AUGUSTA, Ga. (BP) — The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board celebrated its 125th anniversary in Laos, Southern Baptist have stressed that they would strengthen and complement rather than compete.

The agency moved its spring board meeting to Augusta and the First Baptist Church here where the Southern Baptist Convention and its two mission boards were authorized in 1845.

At the same time, the missionary personnel department conducted the orientation of 45 new missionaries. Then more than 3,000 Baptists from the area joined directors, staff and new missionaries for a climatic mission rally that filled Augusta's Bell Auditorium.

The rally featured a 400-voice youth

choir directed by Jacques Kearns, a series of "illustrated dialogues" on home mission history and closed with a commissioning of the 45 missionaries.

Missions Director Hugo Culpepper, speaking to the new appointees, suggested they cherish their vocation as missionaries. "Most men today have lost the spiritual dimension of their lives."

"You must recognize the source of your strength, for you are called to do what can never be done in your own strength," he said.

Earlier at a luncheon the directors and missionaries had heard Baptist Historian Davis C. Woolley of Nashville tell "how it was in Augusta" in 1845 when cotton was king and James

K. Polk of Tennessee was President of the United States.

Woolley, executive secretary of the SBC Historical Commission, presented background information on events which led to the break by the Southern Baptists from the Triennial Convention after friction developed over mission neglect in the South, the refusal to appoint slaveholders as missionaries, and the concept of denominational organization.

He said a new kind of national Baptist body was created basing representation on financial contributions, expressing primary interest in missions, and respecting the independence of churches.

(Continued on page 3)

## Joint Committee Sets Aid To States

WASHINGTON (BP) — The Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs took steps in its semi-annual meeting here to make its resources and staff available to Baptist leadership in the states who might desire such service.

The action was taken in response to increasing requests from state Baptist leadership for help with a rising number of public affairs issues that are developing in the states.

Although the number of such issues is large, four acute areas of public affairs problems rising in the states were identified by the staff of the Joint Committee.

### 'Shaping 70's' College Clinics Being Held

A series of four "Shaping the 70's" state, with two already held and two more scheduled.

On March 19 a clinic will be held at Clarke College. Therman V. Bryant, associate in the Cooperative Missions Department of the Convention Board, sponsor, will be the speaker at chapel held from 10:40 - 11:30 a.m.

Bryant M. Cummings, director of Sunday School Department, will lead the period 4:10 - 5:40 p.m. when plans for "Shaping the 70's" will be discussed. Dennis Kissinger of Fifteenth Avenue Baptist Church in Meridian, will lead the music.

On March 23 a clinic will be held at Mississippi College with Dr. W. Douglas Hudgins, executive secretary of the Convention Board, to be the chapel speaker at 9:50 - 10:15 a.m.

Mr. Cummings will lead the discussion period from 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. and Festus Robertson of Nashville will lead music.

The clinic at Blue Mountain College featured Rev. Ralph B. Winders, director of Student Department of Convention Board, as chapel speaker.

Mr. Cummings served as discussion leader with music led by Dan C. Hall, director of Music Department of Convention Board.

The clinic held at Carey College featured Mr. Cummings as chapel speaker with discussion period led by Kermit S. King, director of Training Union Department of Convention Board.

Students who are serving churches as pastors, music ministers, education ministers or in any capacity are urged to attend the meetings, according to Mr. Bryant, who is director of the series.

They are the issue of state aid to non-public education, the welfare program of the nation and the entire range of state aid to children, court cases on freedom of religion and separation of church and state, and the problem of taxation and the churches.

At the request of the Baptist Joint Committee last October, James M. Sapp, director of correlation services, and W. Barry Garrett, director of information services, developed a set of guidelines for the stewardship of Baptist influence in the states.

These guidelines were approved by the Baptist Joint Committee as a tentative and beginning procedure for use by the staff in advisory consultations with the constituent bodies.

In addition, the Baptist Joint Committee authorized its staff in consultation with Baptist state leaders to select three or more states or regional areas for pilot projects in handling public affairs issues in the states.

Both the guidelines and the projects development of future policy on working relationships.

The current policy of the committee is to work with whatever group or committee that is designated by the states to handle public affairs issues.

During the discussion it was pointed out that in many states it might be effective to develop "Baptist Joint Committees" composed of representatives of each Baptist group in the state to help develop Baptist approaches to public issues.

The Committee took steps to select (Continued on page 2)

## Series Man, Boy Rallies Announced

A series of five Man and Boy Rallies will be held in the state March 20-April 17, according to Rev. E. L. Howell, Jackson, director of the Southern Baptist Convention's

The schedule follows: March 20, First Church, Wiggins; March 27, First, Crystal Springs; April 3, State Boulevard, Meridian; April 10, East Heights, Tupelo, and April 17, Moorhead.

The principal mission speaker at the Moorhead rally will be Rev. Don Redmon, Southern Baptist missionary to Costa Rica.

Rev. David Mayhall, missionary to Nigeria, will be the speaker at the other four rallies.

Rev. James Smith, pastor of First Church, Mendenhall, a sleight of hand artist, will provide the entertainment at each meeting and close with a spiritual challenge.

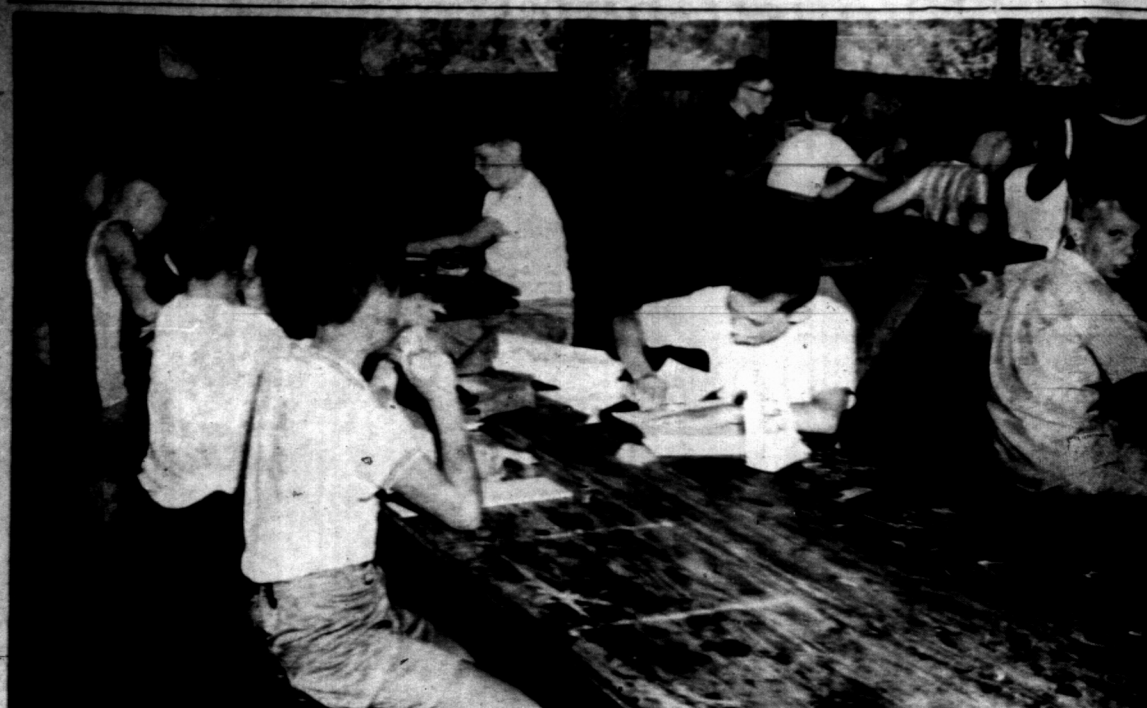
Each rally will begin with registration at 4:30 p.m., to be followed at 5:00 with singingspiration and fellowship. Supper will be served at 6:00, with adjournment set for 9:00.

Baptist men and boys are urged to attend the rally most convenient.

Mr. Howell said that the purpose of the rallies is to provide missionary information for both Baptist men and boys as well as to see and feel the impact of the interest in the church Brotherhood program in their particular area.

Mr. Howell will be assisted in directing the meetings by Paul Harrell, department associate.

Those expecting to be present for the meal are asked to contact the host church in advance and send \$1.25 for each meal.



## 1970 Royal Ambassador Camping Program To Begin June 3

DUE TO THE devastation of Kittiwake Baptist Camp caused by Camille, the state Royal Ambassador Camps will, of necessity, be relocated for the summer of 1970. The first three weeks of camp, which include June 3-12, June 15-19, and June 22-26, will be held in the 4-H Club Camp at Sardis Lake. The next four weeks, which include June 29 - July 3, July 6-10, July 13-17, and July 20-24, will be held at Percy Quin State Park, McComb. Each camp week is slated to accommodate 150 campers. Royal Ambassador boys may choose either camping area they desire. The camps will be sponsored by the Brotherhood Department, Rev. E. L. Howell, director, with Paul Harrell, associate, to serve as camp director. Photo above shows typical camping activity.

A fee of \$5.00 must accompany the preregistration for each boy. This fee is not refundable. It may be transferred (as registration fee) to another boy upon advance notice. The balance, which is \$18.00, is to be paid no later than three weeks before the date of camp which the boy is to attend. This fee (\$18.00) may be refunded when a notice is received at least 15 days before the date of camp. Also the camp fee may be transferred to another boy. Make checks or money orders payable to R.A. Camp, Brotherhood Department (do not send cash), and mail to: Brotherhood Department, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205.

### PROGRAM FOR

## 'Affirming The Bible' Conference

The program for the "Affirming the Bible" Conference which has been announced to be held in Denver just preceding the Southern Baptist Convention in Denver, has been released by Dr. Ross Edwards, editor of the Missouri Baptist Journal, and initiator of the meeting.

The sessions will be held in the First Southern Baptist Church auditorium at 10th and Pearl Streets in Denver, on Saturday afternoon and evening, May 30, 1970.

The meeting is scheduled before the convention and usual pre-convention meetings are set, and will not conflict with any other regularly scheduled meeting that is of convention-wide interest.

It has been made clear that no organization will be formed, and there is no plan for making this a continuing meeting. Of course, such could develop, but there is nothing of that in mind in the planning of this meeting.

The program is as follows:

Temporary Chairman: W. Ross Edwards, Editor, WORD AND WAY, Missouri Baptist Convention

Chairman of Arrangements: O. L. Bayless, Assistant Executive Secretary, Colorado Convention, Editor, ROCKY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST

Music: Rudy Fann, Hoffmanna Church, Albuquerque, New Mexico

1:00 p.m.—Song Service

1:15 p.m.—Welcome and Devotional

1:30 p.m.—"The Bible and Prophecy" Glenn Braswell

1:55 p.m.—Hymn

2:00 p.m.—"The Bible and the Church" Ralph Smith

2:25 p.m.—Hymn

2:30 p.m.—"The Bible and Good Works" Jimmy Allen

2:55 p.m.—Hymn

3:00 p.m.—"The Bible and Evangelism" Roy Fish

3:25 p.m.—Hymn

3:30 p.m.—Special Music

3:35 p.m.—"Southern Baptists and the Bible" K. Owen White

7:00 p.m.—Song Service

7:15 p.m.—Devotional

7:30 p.m.—"The Bible and Baptist Literature" Eugene Whitlow

8:00 p.m.—Hymn

8:05 p.m.—"The Bible and Missions" Charles Ashcraft

8:25 p.m.—Hymn

8:40 p.m.—Special Music

8:45 p.m.—"Why I Preach the Bible"—Speaker to be announced

## Baptist Joint Committee

(Continued from page 1)

a successor to C. Emanuel Carlson, executive director since 1954, who has announced his retirement in April, 1971.

Carlson made his announcement on the basis of the personnel policy of the committee, which requires retirement the first of the month following an employee's 65th birthday.

At present the executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee is on a leave of absence for research and writing. During his absence the administrative duties of the committee

are being carried out by John Baker, associate executive director.

The committee to nominate Carlson's successor was appointed by Homer J. Tucker, chairman of the joint committee. It is composed of five of the chief executives of the denominations that maintain the public affairs work. They are: Porter W. Routh (Southern Baptist Convention), Edwin H. Tuller (American Baptist Convention), Warren R. Magnuson (Baptist General Conference), G. K. Zimmerman (North American Baptist General Conference) and Alton K. Wheeler (Seventh-Day Baptist General Conference).

## Blessitt Reaches Half-Way On Trek To Washington

By Bob Mathews

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP)—When Arthur Blessitt, young Southern Baptist "minister of Sunset Strip," lifted the 80-pound, ten-foot cross from his shoulder here, he had reached the half-way mark in his 2,600 mile march to Washington, D. C., from California.

Blessitt and a quartet of young men are carrying the cross across the nation "to emphasize the need for spiritual awakening throughout America." Along the way, the group pause for evangelistic rallies in major cities.

Blessitt says that hundreds of people have been converted in the past few days. He urges young people to avoid getting hooked on drugs and to "turn on to Jesus and stay loaded 24 hours a day."

When he arrived in Oklahoma City, Blessitt headed for the local hippie area, a two-block strip of psychedelic shops, boutiques and coffee houses. After "rapping" (talking) with the people there, Blessitt called them to prayer right in the street.

Two hippies, one white youth called Lerch (real name Steve Guinn) and a Negro called Cinnamon (real name David Joiner) both gave out a shout. Steve, who later admitted he had used and pushed dope, explained what happened to a television reporter, saying: "Why man, I just flashed—the greatest flash I've ever had, and I've had a lot of them. But this is the greatest. Man, Jesus is the greatest. He's saved me."

Later, at a citywide rally in the Oklahoma City Civic Center Music Hall, Blessitt called Steve and David to the stage and they repeated their testimonies. The next night David returned, cleaned up, shaved and wearing a suit.

The Mississippi-born evangelist held rallies on two nights in Oklahoma City and stayed over to preach at the Sunday evening service of First Baptist Church here before a packed house, including hippie-type youth who normally never came to church. During the rallies, 24 people made professions of faith at the first night, and 61 were converted on the second night.

In his sermon at the music hall, Blessitt repeated his advice to young people that "the best way to turn off drugs is to turn on Jesus." To the Christians present, he called for more boldness in witnessing about Jesus.

Blessitt said that instead of shutting their eyes to "Playboy" magazine and pornographic materials on the bookstands, Christians ought to carry gospel tracts and slip them between the pages of such publications. "But don't peek now," he quipped.

He said Christians ought to put tracts in with their checks when they pay their bills by mail, and pray that

## Cooperative Gifts For SBC In Slight Drop

NASHVILLE (BP)—Contributions to missions through the Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program unified budget decreased during the month of February by 6.18 per cent, causing total gifts for the year to drop below the 1969 level by .77 per cent.

The decrease in giving during the month of February offset and nullified an increase in contributions during the month of January, according to a report prepared by John H. Williams, financial planning secretary for the SBC Executive Committee.

Total contributions through the Cooperative Program for the first two months of 1970 reached \$4,943,251, a decrease of \$38,438 or .77 per cent compared to the \$4.98 million given during the first two months of 1969.

During the month of February, Cooperative Program giving was \$2,329,680, a decrease of \$153,437 or 6.18 per cent from the \$2.48 million contributed in February, 1969. The February 1969 giving was a 12.8 per cent increase over February, 1968 gifts.

Williams explained that there was one state (Kentucky) which has sent in only one of the two month's Cooperative Program checks, accounting for about \$100,000 of the decrease. Of the 31 state conventions, 15 have reported decreases in giving for the first two months of the year. Three states did not send in any funds during February.



## Shaping 70's Clinic Held In Leake

LEAKE COUNTY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION held its "Shaping the Seventies" Clinic at the First Church in Carthage on March 9. Top photo shows members of team, from left, seated: Rev. Percy Cooper; Mrs. Cooper, both of Carthage; Rev. Lester Jones, Rocky Point; Rev. Harold Bryson, host pastor. Standing: Welton Madden, Carthage; C. C. Moore, Edinburgh, and Rev. A. A. Ward, superintendent of missions. Lower photo shows Sunday School group, with leader, Rev. Jerry Bishop, Freney, seated at front.

don't know, I just might be." To this Blessitt said, "Well, I tell you what, if you're not we can tie it up right here." After they were off the air, the interviewer asked Blessitt to stay at the station and talk with him.

Looking like a "clean hippie," Blessitt wore leather bell-bottom trousers, a semi-see-through floral shirt, a leather fringed vest and boots. A medallion portraying the peace symbol topped by a cross hung from a leather thong around his neck.

Throughout the trek to Washington, Blessitt preaches wherever the opportunity presents itself—in shopping centers, churches, schools, colleges and city auditoriums.

The unconventional evangelist launched the trek to Washington on Christmas Day. He hopes to climax his march with a mass prayer rally at the Washington Monument on July 18-19, with a half-million people present.

For those who can't go to Washington, Blessitt is asking that they keep their churches open on July 18-19 for prayer. He also is encouraging fellowship prayer meetings and brotherhood projects of community help, and for people to send gifts for the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare to give out.

The cross he and his companions are carrying on the march is the same wooden cross to which Blessitt chained

himself last summer in a 28-day fast and protest to being evicted from the building housing his "Christian nightclub" named "His Place." The cross has two small wheels at its base and is carried or pulled by two members of the group at a time. They walk in two-hour shifts averaging about six miles per shift.

"This cross represents the crisis of our nation, and the Christ of the crisis," Blessitt explains. "We're walking to signify the simplicity of the message and person of Jesus the Christ."

Two of the four young men accompanying the 29-year-old preacher also play musical instruments and sing in a group called "The Eternal Rush." They are O. J. Peterson of Phoenix and Jim McPheters of Seattle. Also helping to walk the cross to Washington are Jesse Wise of Pueblo, Colo., and Ramsey Gilcrease of Louisiana.

Blessitt's wife, Sherry, and their three children, ranging in age from seven months to five years, are also making the trek and living in a camper along the way.

While Blessitt is away from Sunset Strip his work there in the Christian nightclub and the House of Disciples, halfway house for converted drug addicts, is being carried on by Ed Human and Dale Larson, co-directors and full-time staff of six other workers.



Chester Vaughn Myrte Veach Charles Treadway Hazel Rodgers Helen Young

## Out-of-State Leaders For S.S. 'Shaping 70's' Meetings

(Continued from page 1)

Chester Vaughn, Miss Hazel Rodgers, Dr. Charles Treadway, Miss Helen Young, Miss Myrte Veach.

The schedule of meetings follows: April 13—First Baptist Church, Holly Springs; First, Cleveland; First,

Starkville; First, McComb; Main Street, Hattiesburg.

April 14—First, Pontotoc; First, Newton; First, Biloxi; First, Natchez; Parkway, Jackson.

Conferences will feature the new grouping-grading as well as the current grading plan.

Each meeting will be held from 7:00 - 9:15 p.m.

There will be provisions for children of those workers attending the conferences.

The conferences will be sponsored by the Sunday School Board and the Sunday School Department.

## WATCH FOR THE 70-70 LAUNCH PAD

Every pastor and associational Sunday School worker in the state, soon should receive in the mail a copy of the "70-70 Launch Pad," according to Bryant M. Cummings, State Sunday School Director.

The "Launch Pad" offers suggestions, including a timetable, for successfully launching the new Sunday School program in a church.

Workers who receive the "70-70 Launch Pad" should study carefully these plans for the 70-70 Launch. If a church uses this plan, or adapts it to suit its own needs, the step-by-step guidance in this leaflet will help leaders plan and conduct the launching operation.



Mrs. Lewis Myers Rev. Lewis Myers, Jr. Rev. Samuel Simpson Rev. David Mayhall Rev. Donald Redmon Mrs. Donald Redmon Rev. John Merritt Mrs. John Merritt Dr. David R. Grant Dr. Douglas Hodgins Dennis Bucher Dr. Edwin Robinson

Meet These Leaders At State W. M. U. Convention, Broadmoor Baptist Church, Jackson, March 24-25



THE BLUFF CREEK HOME of Grace for Men at Vancleave is a Christian home dedicated to the rehabilitation of alcoholics. The dining hall and assembly room is pictured. Rev. Bill Barton is the superintendent.



PICTURED, left to right, are Rev. William L. Barton, superintendent of the Bluff Creek Home of Grace for Men; Mrs. J. T. Reed, member of the Board of Trustees; Mrs. James Hastings, who gave land for the new home; and Rev. Thomas Crawford, superintendent of the Home of Grace for Women.



THE HOME OF GRACE for Women was dedicated Sunday afternoon, March 8, a few miles northeast of Gautier. The home is an outgrowth of the Home of Grace for Men, and will lend assistance to women who are alcoholics.



PICTURED IS A PART of the crowd present for the dedication of the Home of Grace for Women, on March 8. Dr. Joe Odle, editor of the Baptist Record, was principal speaker. Rev. Thomas Crawford is superintendent of the home.

## A Ministry To Alcoholics

# The Home Of Grace For Women Dedicated

THE HOME OF GRACE FOR WOMEN, located a few miles Northeast of Gautier, Mississippi, five miles off of Highway 90 between Biloxi and Pascagoula, was dedicated on Sunday afternoon, March 8, with several hundred people attending.

The home is an outgrowth of the BLUFF CREEK HOME OF GRACE, a home for alcoholic men, located 12 miles away at Vancleave. As hundreds of men were given assistance at the men's home, it became evident about

three years ago, that a similar institution was needed for women, and some of the leaders began to pray that such a home might be established.

Several acres of land were given, and old buildings to be torn down, along with other building materials, were donated. Men from the men's home did almost all of the work of erecting the building. The superintendent of the men's home, Rev. William L. Barton, said, "We started with nothing, and today, three years later, we are dedicating a building worth \$89,000 to \$90,000 debt free." The superintendent of the new home is Rev. Thomas H. Crawford.

The new facility has adequate provision for sixteen women. The building is spacious with living area, kitchen, storage areas, an assembly hall, recreation room, apartment for superintendent, and a large screened

porch. The entire building is paneled. While not luxurious, the building will provide for comfort and proper care, for those who come for assistance.

According to Mr. Barton, the home recommends that those who come to the homes plan to stay for at least 8 weeks. Those who do that usually are able to conquer alcoholism, and do not have to return. No charges are made for the services of the institutions, since they operate by faith.

Hundreds of people were present for the dedication. In the large assembly hall, every seat was filled, and many people were standing around the walls, and on the porches.

Principal speaker for the occasion was Dr. Joe Odle, editor of the Baptist Record, Jackson. Others participating were Rev. Bill Barton, superintendent of the men's home; Mrs. T. J. Reed, a member of the board of

trustees, who introduced Mrs. James Hastings, who gave the land; Rev. Jerry Mitchell who gave the invocation; Rev. Ralph Young, who introduced the speaker; Rev. Thomas Crawford, superintendent of the home, and Rev. Aston, who delivered the benediction.

Music was furnished by the Gospel Four of the Bethel Baptist Church, and a choir from the Westwood Baptist Church, Mobile.

Church May Organize: A small Baptist mission in Vallecitas, a suburb of Madrid, will probably be organized into a church when a national pastor arrives there in March, Mrs. Whitten says. She and her husband led the mission. Meetings began in a machine shop but are now held in a rented building with "a beautifully decorated" auditorium and limited space for education.

## ...Baptist Confessions of Faith

(Continued from page 1)

bated and fought on many issues through the years in which there have been wide differences of opinion. But they have held together in spite of these differences simply because there were other and more basic beliefs which they held in common.

Someone has pointed out that there was no officially adopted statement of belief by the Southern Baptist Convention until 80 years after organization. This is understandable. In those earlier years there was no need for such an official statement. It was obvious that all who participated in the work of the convention shared these common basic beliefs.

Had it not been clearly revealed by the confessions of faith (either the Philadelphia or the New Hampshire) adopted by the associations and the churches?

It was not until there appeared some departure from these basic beliefs that the convention felt the need of an official statement.

Since 1925 these basic beliefs have been reconfirmed by the convention on several occasions.

### Declaration of Doctrine

The day that Southern Baptists refuse to declare publicly in convention the basic doctrines as expressed in the 17 articles of faith in the New Hampshire confession or a similar one, our effectiveness as a witness to Christ in our world will be negated and our so-called unity will become nothing more than a farce.

But someone may ask: Is not our convention in existence for the primary purpose of aiding the churches in propagating the gospel and not that of making creedal statements? This is the primary purpose of our convention, but what is this gospel we are to propagate? We must define what we mean by the gospel, and when we do that we have made a creedal statement.

Not only does our convention have the right to make a creedal statement of basic beliefs, but it also has the right to expect assent by all who would be a cooperating part of the convention organization and program. Certainly the convention has no

right to tell the church what it must believe, but the convention does have the right to limit membership in the convention to those who share certain basic beliefs. This is nothing but right and fair to all parties involved.

If we do away with all doctrinal requirements, what would keep a Roman Catholic church or a Unitarian church from becoming a recognized cooperating body?

This is not to say that we must put our messengers or our churches in theological strait jackets. There is plenty of room for variety and differences of opinion while staying within the basic doctrines expressed in the New Hampshire Confession of Faith.

This confession does make several things quite clear. It leaves no room for those who would throw suspicion on the Bible as the inerrant and authoritative Word of God. It has no place for those who would question the deity of Christ or the substitutionary nature of His atoning death on Calvary. It would exclude those who doubt the historic resurrection of Christ or the expectation of His visible return to earth.

It leaves out those who do not see the primary task of the church as that of preaching salvation by grace through faith in the atoning blood of Jesus to sinful, hell-bound men as their only hope of redemption.

### Symbol of Ordinances

It also insists that those who wish to identify themselves with us must accept the symbolic nature of the ordinances. To accept baptism, even though it be by immersion, or another church which teaches baptismal regeneration or apostasy is to deny this basic doctrine.

There are many areas left untouched by these articles of faith, leaving plenty of room for differences of opinion on many subjects. For instance, nothing is said about a particular millennial position. Neither is anything said about open or closed communion. Furthermore, there are no restrictions concerning methods or organizations employed within the local church.

If it were a matter of fellowship only, I would have no problem in sitting down in our conventions and as-

sociations with others of widely differing views on the basic doctrines of the Christian religion.

The problem becomes far more complicated and acute when we realize that the Southern Baptist Convention is the agency through which the churches carry on a worldwide mission program.

### Mission Boards

We look to our convention through its mission boards to send out missionaries with the money we provide. What kind of missionaries is the board going to send? What are these missionaries going to preach.

When our churches give us money for missions through our Cooperative Program, it would like to have some assurance that this money is being invested in missionaries who are preaching and teaching the basic doctrines which we believe as expressed in the New Hampshire Confession of Faith. Do we have any such assurance if we open wide the door and recognize no doctrinal standards for our convention and its program?

This is a matter of conscience concerning what we believe to be a basic principle of honesty and consistency with malice or ill will toward none. —Baptist Standard.

## WMU Meet In Denver

(Continued from page 1)

ference. Each group will hold simultaneous sessions on Monday.

Mrs. Mathis urged persons attending the convention to be aware of the schedule change. "Women usually make reservations to arrive at the annual meeting on Monday morning. This year they should arrange to arrive before Sunday afternoon," she said.

The Monday morning session emphasizing foreign missions will feature addresses by Catherine Jesse Fletcher, director of the Foreign Mission Board's Missions Support Division and Winston C. Crawley, director of the board's Overseas Division. A third board division head, Sidney C. Reber of management services, will sing a solo. Testimonies from foreign missionaries and missionary appointees will also be featured.

Miss Alma Hunt, executive secretary of Woman's Missionary Union, Birmingham, will speak during the Monday morning session.

In the Monday afternoon session spotlighting the Home Mission Board, missions work in the western United States will be emphasized. Rutledge and Albert McClellan, program planning secretary for the SBC Executive Committee, Nashville, will present an illustrated dialogue on "The West That Was." Rutledge will also close the session.

Kenneth L. Chafin, new Evangelism Division director for the board, will speak on "The West: A Continuing Spiritual Frontier."

Laymen, missionaries, pastors and Home Mission Board department secretaries and workers will tell about their work in the west.

They include Wendell Belew of the board's pioneer missions department, Atlanta; Dewey Hickey of Valentine, Neb.; LaVern Inzer of Winnemucca, Nevada; Tommy Grozier of Bellevue, Neb.; Roy Owen of the board's rural-urban missions department; Don Kim of Los Angeles; Benjamin Duke of Pueblo, Colo.; Wilfred Chung of Sacramento, Calif.; and Theo Patnaik of San Jose, Calif.

## TEACHER TRAINING INSTITUTES

To train potential teachers of the new church  
program administration books

MARCH 26  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, CLINTON

MARCH 26  
TEMPLE, HATTIESBURG

MARCH 27  
OAKHURST, CLARKSDALE

MARCH 27  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, HOUSTON



Morton Rose  
Education Division  
Baptist Sunday School Board  
Nashville Tennessee

W. O. Thomason  
Education Division  
Baptist Sunday School Board  
Nashville, Tennessee



Dennis E. Conniff, Jr.  
Miss. Sunday School Dept.  
Jackson



Judd R. Allen  
Miss. Sunday School Dept.  
Jackson



Ben Coates  
Brotherhood Commission  
Memphis, Tennessee



Eddie Hurt  
Brotherhood Commission  
Memphis, Tennessee



Forrest Watkins  
Church Training Department  
Baptist Sunday School Board  
Nashville, Tennessee



Earl Murphy  
Church Training Department  
Baptist Sunday School Board  
Nashville, Tennessee



Festus Robertson  
Church Music Department  
Baptist Sunday School Board  
Nashville, Tennessee



John Johnson  
Music Department  
Mississippi College  
Clinton

### "CHURCH MUSIC ADMINISTRATION"

### SCHEDULE

- 10:00 Opening session for introductions and necessary announcements
- 10:15 First conference session
- 12:15 Lunch
- 1:30 Second conference session
- 3:30 Adjourn

## Itawamba B. S. U. Center Dedication Set

The Baptist Student Union at Itawamba Junior College, Fulton, will hold dedication service at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 22. Open house will continue from this hour until 4:30 p. m. Everyone is invited, according to Rev. Fred Chancellor, president B.S.U. Committee, and Rev. Ulvie Pitts, B.S.U. director.



## Seminars Conducted At Hospital

THE FIRST OF A SERIES of seminars on pastoral care being conducted at the Baptist Hospital in Jackson was held March 10. Four of those present are, from left: Rev. Eugene Roberts, Rev. J. Roy McComb, of Brookhaven; Rev. Gordon Shamburger, hospital chaplain, and Rev. Mack Massey, Brookhaven. Present also from Brookhaven was Rev. Emmertson Teddy. The seminars will continue each Tuesday afternoon through April 28. Those interested should contact Mr. Shamburger.

"As a Man Thinketh within Himself, So Is He"



A Woman's World Reaches Far

## Beyond the Ironing Board

Wilda Fancher

### Man, No I'm No Square (or Whatever)

I try to keep an open mind. Sometimes it is only a cracked mind (I speak of the degree of open-mindedness, not the state of mind), I must admit, but I try to keep it open. The experts seem to think that it is the only way we older folks can survive the generation gap, and I despair that they have given up on our ever bridging it. Frankly, I think we have bridged it at our house — we, meaning my husband and me-but I have no idea our boys realize it is bridged. In fact, I don't think they would even wonder at the generation's difference in us and them if some news media had not come up with the catchy name for a condition that has always existed. The world would be in a bigger mess than it is if there were not a gap between generations.

The gap lies in the fact that a daughter keeps a messy room because she is rebelling against authority, while her mother keeps a clean house because she recognizes that a reasonably clean house is good for a family; the gap lies in the fact that a daughter may change her dress five times before leaving for school, while her mother deliberately decides what she will wear wherever she is going; the gap lies in the fact that a daughter decides almost everything on the basis of this moment, while her mother makes decisions on the basis of this

moment plus last week and next week. The gap lies in the fact that a boy puts off, as long as he can, mowing the yard he contracted for, while his father deliberately works at honest day's work as his work agreement specifies; the gap lies in the fact that a boy plans almost everything with just himself in mind, while his father plans almost everything with all his family in mind.

At our house we have swung a bridge made of ropes of faith, love, and a strand or two of patience — faith in our boys' abilities to grow and mature and accept responsibilities, love for their greater qualities, and patience with their lesser qualities. Sometimes we use the bridge to get to them, more often they use it to get to us. Sometimes we use the bridge to walk back into their problems by remembering ours at comparable ages. Sometimes they use the bridge to come over into the world of adults for a brief time as they show evidence of becoming fine men. Back and forth every member of our family travels as we have need of the other.

Swinging bridges seem not to be under one's feet occasionally, but at our house, we all know it's there, and if one of us falls off, it's not a high climb back up, specially with hands reaching down to help.

## The Future Of The Assemblies

We often are being asked, "What is the future of the assemblies?" Related questions are: "Will we rebuild Gulfshore?" and "What about assemblies and camps for 1970?"

All of these questions can be answered. Let me say in the first place that there are no assemblies planned for 1970 by any of the departments. However, the Brotherhood department has planned for the R. A. Camps to be held almost as usual, and places and dates for them already have been announced in the Baptist Record. If you failed to see those we suggest that you write direct to the Brotherhood Department, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205, for full information.

As to the future of the assemblies property, no one knows at this time, what that is. A special Convention Board committee was authorized by the state convention last November, to study the whole issue, and bring a report to the Convention Board in September, and through that body to the convention itself, next November. It is probably, or at least possible, that the decision will be made at that time.

Whatever, is done, we will have to start almost from nothing.

About all that we have left on the Gulf Coast is the land. Probably the only building left at Gulfshore that can be rebuilt is the gymnasium. The committee may find that the cheapest thing to do with the other remaining buildings, including the large hotel, Gulf, is to tear them down, and start new. This is because the damage was so extensive. However, the committee still is studying, and no decision will be made until a later date.

There are many who want the assemblies to return to the Gulf Coast, if they can be made fairly hurricane proof (this is the building code requirement on the coast now) and if satisfactory insurance coverage is available. Others want the assemblies to be built inland nearer the center of the state. The problem there, of course, is "Where?"

Actually, at this moment, there is not a single person who knows, or who can predict what the future of the assemblies program will be. Right now, we need to be much in prayer for the special committee studying the matter, so that it may be able to come up with such information that the Convention Board and the convention itself, can make the right decisions when the time comes to do that.

## THE BAPTIST FORUM

### Resolution Concerning Moral Problems

Editor of The Baptist Record:

Whereas, it is our Christian responsibility to God and our fellow Baptists and other Christian people; let it be known that we the undersigned are unanimous in the following resolutions:

It is resolved that we deplore any action on the part of any person and/or organizations who try to bring into our educational system the teaching of evolution. We want all of our children to be well informed and educated, but not with the damnable doctrine of evolution. "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. . . . And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." Genesis 1:26-27.

It is resolved that we encourage merchants and theater owners in Tippah and United Counties to refrain from displaying and selling immoral books and magazines; and showing movies that are rated as "sex films." We believe that these temptations put before our children and young people only lead to degradation and loose morals. "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them." Ephesians 5:11.

It is resolved that we ask pastors, churches, teachers, public officials, and other people to take a longer and deeper look at the problems mentioned above and other problems we face in this state and nation. We challenge people to speak out in protest to sins and then help to eliminate them. "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." Ephesians 2:10.

### Missionary Writes Concerning Cost Of Meals in Tokyo

Dear Mississippi Friends:

We are expecting many Mississippi Baptists to attend the B. W. A. Congress in Tokyo this summer. You have always been so wonderful to us on furlough, I wish that I could be of special personal service to each of you while in our city. I wish all of you could visit Hanakoganei Baptist Church, of which I am pastor. But Tokyo is terribly large, and extremely difficult to navigate without a pilot, and we'll all be so busy those days. But I want you to know that a couple of fellow Mississippians are here to wish you, a warm Southern welcome, to be of service as needed. Though I'm sure your travel agents

guidelines similar to those in effect for other church loans." We would not quarrel with the action of this Executive Board, nor with the plans and motives behind the proposal of the Home Mission Board. We would wonder, however, whether or not this plan to extend the activities of the Church Loans Division is wise. We have some reason to believe that, as a matter of policy, the Board should confine its loan activities to churches in fellowship with the several state conventions and the Southern Baptist Convention, regardless of the racial structure of the church.

and guides will give you necessary information, I'll give a few hints for emphasis, hoping they will be helpful.

First, let me suggest that you do not tip. It is not a Japanese custom, and not expected. In fact, a tip will be added to your hotel bill, and tickets for all meals in the form of a 10 or 15% "service charge." I do strongly urge that you "tip" with a warm smile and an expression of appreciation, such as a bow. It will be most welcome, and be a testimony for your faith.

The water is safe, and the food is sanitary, so eat, drink, and be merry. Be prepared for this fact: Japan is an "advanced" country, with advanced prices. In the price you pay for your tour, it is quite significant whether your meals are included or not, and how many meals. Hotel breakfast will be priced from \$1.50 up. I think lunches in the form of boxes of sandwiches will be available the BUDOKAN, but you must buy your tickets for them at your hotel, for about 80c I think. Details on that are not complete. And, eating meat in your hotel will cost from \$4.00 up. A coke with a meal costs from 25c up. Make that coffee, and it is a quarter or more. Tea is only two bits. Like I said, the water is safe! Other prices will surprise you as being cheaper than stateside, such as perhaps taxi fare, if you can stand the thrill of the ride. Subway fares are reasonable, if you know where you are going, and you can get maps that will help you find your way. Pearls, cameras, binoculars are somewhat cheaper, and may be bought tax free if you use your passport. What ever you do, keep up with it!

Tokyo is an interesting mixture of Oriental and Western, the modern and ancient. Don't expect everything like it is at home. You don't, of course, but we hear so many tourists complaining because things are not just like home! Strange, isn't it? Promise yourself and The Lord before you

patience and kindness with you at all times! Make a note of our phone number, and call us for help, or just for fun. Though we hope to see you personally, we may not. Phone (0423) 61-0170. Though this is "long distance," it can be dialed from certain public phones. The safest bet is to give it to your hotel operator, who can understand English.

Rather than making this letter too long, we shall write again, covering matters such as clothes to wear, what to see, something of our Baptist work here in Tokyo, and answer any questions that may come to us. Curtis & Mary Lee Askew The Japan Mission 1535 3-Chome, Asahimachi, Fuchu-shi, Tokyo

### Shorosh Preaching In Bangalore, India

Dear Dr. Odle:

Fantastic meetings throughout these days! God is honoring His word by saving many hundreds and reaching

However, to move into the field of finance for churches outside the fellowship of the Convention seems to us to somewhat open a Pandora's Box for the future.

The problem is even more difficult when one is aware that many Southern Baptist churches seek loans from this division, and are unable to secure them for various reasons.

The Church Loans Division of the Board has expanded considerably in recent years. This just might be one area where a little "retrenchment" would hurt the Board of Southern Baptists in general!

## NEWEST BOOKS

THE TRUTH ABOUT WAR by J. T. Ford. (Broadman, 127 pp., \$1.50).

This book deals with a reasoned Christian approach to the problem of war. It discusses patriotism, pacifism, the cost and ingloriousness of war, Vietnam, and sets forth a Christian rationale for war in these words: "Succinctly, there appear to be three valid reasons for participation in war: (1) to maintain, to restore or to create a climate of stability and an environment of order within which government, under law, can function effectively; (2) because we will not accept the alternatives resulting from noninvolvement — the very thoughts of which are repugnant to us; (3) if freedom is denied or threatened in any part of the world, it is to some extent a threat to us."

The author believes God's will for this world to be peace and this ideal will be reached when enough people have "the will to peace." He has suggestions for church groups and individuals about peacemaking. His general position is expressed in his closing paragraph: "Realism reminds us that a world without force, violence or sin is not a real possibility. But a world without armed and irresponsible warfare is a live option and a worthy goal!"

"Doves" will probably call him a "hawk" and realists will say he is too idealistic, but all will agree that telling the truth about war would be a big step toward peace. — Ralph B. Winders

DEARNESS TO DEARER by Craig Ratliff (Broadman, 144 pp., \$2.25).

The author has in large measure carried out his purpose as stated: "This book proposes to present in a readable, understandable manner the basic tenets of Christian theology. It intends to be a popular introduction to theological thought, minus the technical terms. Hopefully, this book will be a usable guide for the layman who is interested in a coherent expression of his faith."

The book is divided into brief chapters which are subdivided into titled sections. It contains many illustrations to clarify the points under discussions. These features add to the readability. It runs the gamut from the doctrine of God to eschatology with a concluding chapter on the application of Christian doctrine to life.

Though the author feels it is "minus the technical terms," it contains a good many names, places, and expressions that will be strange to the average layman. One with theology training will have a greater appreciation of the book, even though he may differ with the author at points, and the preacher will find some sermon material outlined and illustrated. — Ralph B. Winders

THE DYNAMICS OF BELIEF by Don B. Harbuck. (Broadman, 121 pp., \$1.95).

The subjects of the chapters in this book Belief and—Being, Becoming, Trusting, Knowing, Doubting, Suffering, Daring make one realize that the author's thesis is that belief is not something static, but dynamic, and

thousands. I am very gratified at what my eyes see of His glory. About 10,000 came to closing service last night, February 28, in Bangalore.

Anis Shorosh

that Christian belief and experience really make a difference in the way one lives. It is slanted toward college age youth and is really a study book with questions for thought and discussion at the end of each chapter, but it will prove helpful to adults interested in firming their beliefs and following them into action. It is relevant!—Ralph B. Winders

IT WAS GOOD ENOUGH FOR FATHER by Ruth Wilkerson. Harris (Fleming H. Revell, 128 pp., \$3.50).

The warm, lively story of a pioneer Postmaster's family, told by one of his four children. It tells of the home that David Wilkerson, (founder of Teen Challenge) his brother, and two sisters grew up in; the camp meetings, the constant stream of visiting preachers and evangelists, as well as people in desperate trouble and need. It is the story of their father's remarkable walk of simply faith in God.

THE ART OF UNDERSTANDING YOUR MATE by Cecil Osborne (Zondervan, 192 pp., \$4.95).

Here is an honest look at the marriage relationship. The author faces up to the realities of married life, but also points out that the aura of romantic love can be retained if properly nurtured. His book will probably be controversial, for it is written from the male point of view! Dr. Osborne starts with the premise that all married couples are, to some extent, incompatible, because men and women biologically are incompatible. Their goals, drives, emotions, needs, are radically different. Men are "doers" and women are "be-ers," the author says. Using case histories, often humorous, he offers help to husbands and wives in better understanding each other and in building a superior, lasting relationship. Two particularly interesting chapters are "Ten Commandments for Wives" and "Ten Commandments for Husbands."

KNOW WHAT YOU BELIEVE by Paul E. Little (Scripture Press, paperback, 192 pp., \$1.25).

What do you believe, about the deity of Jesus Christ? The Atonement? The Holy Spirit? God? The Bible? Satan? Angels? This volume will bring to the minds of evangelical adults truths they may have lost sight of or perhaps never knew, and will provide for the new convert a brief treatment of Christian doctrine for easy reference.

## Revival Dates

The Baptist Record  
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Jackson, Miss. 39201

Joe T. Odle Editor  
Joe Abrams Associate Editor  
Anne McWilliams Editorial Associate  
William H. Sellers, Bus. Manager  
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CONVENTION BOARD  
W. Douglas Hudgins  
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Subscription \$2.50 a year payable in advance.  
Second Class Postage paid at Jackson, Mississippi.  
The Baptist Record is a member of the Southern Baptist Press Association, the Associated Church Press and the Evangelical Press Association.

## Death Of The Race Track Bill

The "Race Track" issue has been settled for at least another year. Thanks to the alertness of Dr. Clark Hensley of the Christian Action Commission in informing pastors and leaders across the state concerning the proposal, the courage of pastors like Rev. Larry Rohman of Jackson's First Church, the perception of wise newspaper editors, and the quick response of hosts of laymen and women across the state, the members of the legislature got the message quickly, and those members of the legislature who were opposing the bill, got the reinforcement needed to defeat the proposal in quick order.

Even before the Baptist Record reached its readers, the issue was settled, so our support was not needed. However, we are very glad that our position was made perfectly clear, and we hope that those who read what we had to say, will not forget it when the issue comes up again in the future. Do not doubt that it will come up, since those who promote programs like this never quit. We simply are thankful that when a lot of Baptists and others, both in and out of the legislature, heeded to stand up and be counted, they did so. Our state is a better place to live because of them.

### Guest Editorial

## Denominational Primacy --- And The Bible

Charles H. Ashcraft  
In Arkansas Baptist News Magazine

A group of good people labeled by friends as rural, semi-rural, average, middle - class people have built the largest evangelical denomination in America. They have done this primarily because of their almost fanatical confidence in the Bible. The Bible of God was inflexible, inerrant, completely dependable and reliable. Frankly, these Godly people were not too well informed on textual criticism, the early church fathers, original manuscripts, contemporary literature, Josephus, spurious passages, scribe-graphical errors, editorial footnotes, or the Dead Sea Scrolls. To them the word of God was as dependable as the navigator instruments were to the sailor. They trusted the instrument to the extent they were confident to cast off and put out to sea, knowing the exactness of their destiny.

It has only been since sophisticated scholars have been casting aspersions of doubt upon the Biblical record that shortages of preachers and missionaries have been noted, baptisms decreased, attendance has dropped off and a general decline in Christian activities recorded. When confi-

dence in the chief source material for divine matters was shaken, many sorrows and incurable ills were born. However, those who persisted in their zealous confidence in the infallibility of the Word have led good lives, slept well upon retiring, made regular payments on their installment plans, won their neighbors to the Lord, and their children, remained amazingly free from nervous breakdowns, their children being well adjusted and are still living with their original wives—how nice.

We are too great and smart to allow the matter of definition to separate us or to afford ourselves the scholastic elegance which would destroy the confidence of those who have created us. I plead this day for people who deal with such sacred matters to say what they mean and mean what they say. There will always be good men around to serve as reverent pall bearers to those who insist on flying their craft by the seat of their pants, never being quite able to bring themselves to trust the instrument panel. I had rather be a part time lay preacher, confident of my message, than to be a full time ordained pipefitter with a seminary degree. — Charles H. Ashcraft, is Executive Secretary of the Arkansas Baptist Convention.

### Guest Editorial

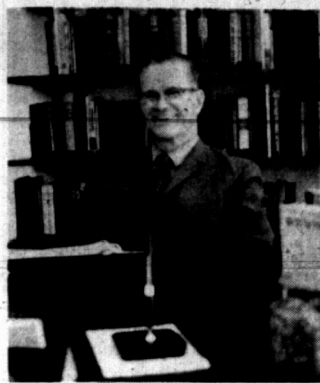
## Home Mission Board

James Lester  
In Baptist & Reflector (Tenn.)

The Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention has approved an operating budget of \$29 million for 1971. Chief objection to the allocations seems to have come from the Home Mission Board, which is scheduled to receive \$5.3 million for next year. Dr. Arthur Ratledge has said that this figure would require some retrench-

ment on the part of the Board which he represents.

The same Executive Committee also approved a recommendation which stated that the Home Mission Board "has proposed to make available to Negro Baptist churches and churches of other ethnic Baptist groups the services of its Church Loans Division and to make church building loans to such churches, under



Clarence Cutrell, associate director, is responsible for Cooperative Program promotion across the state.



James Harrell, associate director, is responsible for Stewardship Development and is shown with pastor Gerald Aultman as they discuss a stewardship program for Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Rt. 3, Mt. Olive.



The efficient operation of any department is dependent on the dedicated work of office secretaries. Shown (foreground) is Mrs. Shirley Dyess and (background) Miss Betty Lewis.

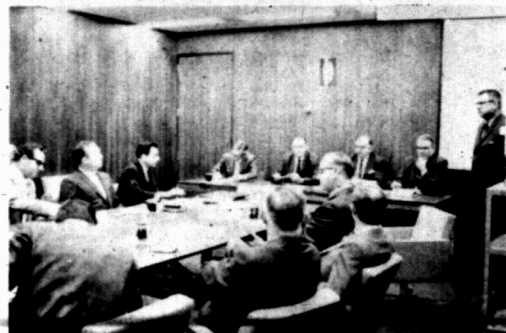
## Convention Board Departments - VII

### The Stewardship Department



"The Stewardship Department since its beginning six years ago, has been interested in helping every church in Mississippi, regardless of its size or location. The department has worked with the philosophy that when you strengthen the local church you strengthen the whole world missions effort. Believing that the pastor is the God-appointed leader of the local congregation, a major effort has been made to assist pastors and deacons in inspiring their budget campaigns, stewardship education, and world mission," states John Alexander, director.

John Alexander is director of the Stewardship Department. Hours must be spent planning, designing and ordering materials, scheduling meetings, answering correspondence, writing, and in various other matters necessary to meeting the needs of 1900 churches across the state.



Study and evaluation is necessary in order to improve the services of the department. Such a session is held in the Baptist Building with state and SBC leaders participating. L-R - Rev. Jackie Hamilton, Dr. Bill Causey, Dr. Levon Moore, Dr. W. Douglas Hudgins, Dr. Brooks Wester, Dr. Lewis Nobles, Dr. Porter Routh, Rev. John Alexander, Rev. Byron Mathis, Dr. James V. Lackey, Rev. James Yates, and Paul Moak.



Twice each year the work of the department, with sample materials, is presented to the Pastoral Ministries class at New Orleans Theological Seminary.



Cooperation with the associational superintendents of missions in the promotion of their work is a major effort of the department. Shown is Rev. W. C. Gann of Prentiss-Tishomingo Association.



As time and budget allows, contacts are made with pastors to discuss church budget needs. Rev. Clarence Cutrell is shown on a visit with Rev. W. C. Burns of Jackson Association.



The department assists churches interested in raising large sums of money for church buildings. Shown is Shiloh Baptist Church, Lawrence Association. Rev. U. G. Salter (L) is pastor and Rev. James Harrell (R) worked with the church.



The needs of the churches vary and the department makes an effort to minister to each one. Every church is an important part of the life and work of the Convention. Shown here is the Friendship Baptist Church, Oktibbeha Association. Rev. Arnold Davis, pastor, and First Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, Dr. Brooks H. Wester, pastor.



## Home Board 125 Years Old

(Continued from page 1)...

All cooperative effort was placed under one organization with boards for special interests, in contrast to earlier mission society organizations. "Obviously the convention was not the comprehensive organization it has become," Woolley concluded. "But Baptists created an organization incorporating basic principles upon which their successors have developed the complex structure and comprehensive program known today as the Southern Baptist Convention."

The directors dealt extensively with the present as they made final adjustments to the \$14.9 million budget for 1970 which supports the work of 2,235 missionaries.

They added Georgia Banker Olin Cox to the Division of Church Loans as finance officer and they authorized the establishment of a new \$1 million loan fund for Negro and other ethnic Baptist churches.

Staffing and funding of the loan project which came in response to national crises, will delay availability of the loans until next year.

Missionary salaries in 1971 will be slightly higher after board action that authorized the spending of more than \$200,000 for the increase.

Directors also re-elected Atlanta Layman Harmon Born as president, Florida Pastor, I. B. Hall of Coral Gables as first vice president and Mrs. Robert Hallman of Atlanta, as second vice president.

Mrs. Wright Gellerstedt of Atlanta was named recording secretary and Mrs. Furman Hardenburg of Boulder, Colo., was elected assistant secretary.

Following a similar action by the SBC Executive Committee, the Board voted to invite five students to participate in its fall sessions in Atlanta. Executive Secretary Arthur B. Rutledge said in reviewing the past year:

"The national crisis continues to receive attention by the board, both by a special committee and by related programs."

Primary implementation has been through program leadership, principally by the assignment of missionaries to fields with critical needs and by encouraging the involvement of Southern Baptists in local efforts to meet such needs."

### A. L. McGaugh,

### Clarke Instructor, Dies In Newton

Allie Lee McGaugh, 64, instructor of biology and mathematics at Clarke College for 21 years died early Tuesday, March 10, at the family home in Newton from an apparent heart attack.

The funeral service was held on Wednesday, March 11, at the First Baptist Church with Rev. Clifford Estes, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, and Dr. W. L. Compere, president of Clarke College, officiating.

For an hour and a half on Wednesday morning the body lay in state in the Clarke science hall which Mr. McGaugh had helped to plan and in which he had taught since it was erected eight years ago.

With the casket flanked by a student honor guard, a large number of students and other friends passed by to pay their tribute of respect.

Mr. McGaugh had been an active member of the First Baptist Church until he became a charter member of Calvary a few years ago. His leadership was a vital part of the development of Calvary from a mission into a church.

In his church he was a deacon, Training Union director, and a teacher of college young men in Sunday school. He was also an active Gideon. Many friends have made gifts to the organ fund of Calvary church and to the Bible fund of the Gideons in his memory.

Through the years this prominent educator led his science classes in collecting valuable specimens and building one of the finest junior college biology collections in the state. The McGaugh greenhouse was given to the college by Mr. McGaugh, his family and friends as a memorial to the family name.

His parents were Alice Trussell and George W. McGaugh of Ackerman. He began his teaching career in the public schools and came to Clarke College in 1949 as teacher of mathematics and later of science.

He held a degree from Delta State, a Master in school administration from the University of Mississippi, and had completed 100 hours in post-graduate credits at the University of Mississippi, the University of Southern Mississippi, and Mississippi State University.

Survivors are his widow, Mrs. Ernestine Jaudon McGaugh, Dean of Women at Clarke; two daughters, Mrs. John Compere (Anne) of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, and Mrs. Warner Blackburn (Marcia) of Millington, Tennessee; five grandchildren; a brother, A. M. McGaugh of Drew; one sister, Mrs. W. M. Trotter of Greenwood.



LEFT TO RIGHT: Paul N. Nunnery, superintendent, Children's Village; Mrs. Tennie Glee Jones, bookkeeper at the Children's Village for 23 years, now retiring; Mrs. W. G. Mize, whose late husband was for many years superintendent of the Children's Village.

### Mrs. Tennie Glee Jones

### Village Bookkeeper Retires

The recently announced retirement of Mrs. Tennie Glee Jones as bookkeeper at the Baptist Children's Village marked the closing of another interesting and inspiring career in Baptist child care. Personnel records at the Village reflect that Mrs. Jones accepted responsibility at Mississippi Baptists' child care agency more than twenty-three and one-half years ago, during the administration of the late W. G. Mize. Stenographer, secretary, office manager, bookkeeper, purchasing and payroll agent, advisor to the administration — all of these duties and many others of the most responsible nature have constituted her assignment, according to Paul N. Nunnery, current Superintendent at the Village.

Superintendent Nunnery recalled impressions which he formed during five years as a trustee, of what he described as "the valuable contribution made by Mrs. Jones to Baptist child care through quiet, but loyal and efficient service in virtually every fiscal and administrative capacity existing in our offices."

"My own very difficult transition from the private practice of law to the very public, very strange, and very demanding stewardship of child care administration could never have been accomplished, except for the sympathetic understanding and cooperative support which I received from this lovely, Christian lady," Nunnery continued.

In his comments upon Mrs. Jones' retirement, Mr. Nunnery emphasized the grace with which she accepted the sweeping changes which have been effected at the Village in recent years and the efficiency with which she adjusted her duties to new and amended job descriptions.

In a career which has few parallels in Mississippi in point of years of service, Mrs. Jones has been responsible for the disbursing of hundreds of thousands of dollars in child care funds, ranging from a child's twenty-five cent, weekly spending allowance to capital investments aggregating more than one and a half million dollars in the relocation and construction of the new Children's Village.

Trustees, staff and children, joined by Mrs. W. G. Mize of Jackson remembered Mrs. Jones with gifts. Hundreds of friends called at the residence of the superintendent on the Village campus during a reception in her honor, and the administrative and office staff paid their respects at a luncheon in her honor at Shady Oaks Country Club in Jackson.

Mrs. Jones makes her home on Parkside Place in Jackson with her husband, Mr. J. Hartford Jones, a local business-man.

## Sunday School

### Conducting Bible Conference Seminar

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### STUDY COURSE CREDIT FOR VBS YEARBOOK

New Church Study Course credit for Vacation Bible School work has been approved as follows:

One credit will be given for reading the Vacation Bible School Yearbook, 1970, and one credit each will be given for reading the Teacher's Guides. Credit will be granted in subject area 63—Bible Teaching Program.

### SCOURCEBOOK

Sourcebook '70-'71 is a digest of available action plans and resource material in the area of outreach, missions, stewardship, education, administration and program services. It has a full description of the available lesson courses for 1970-71. Sourcebook '70-'71 has been designed primarily for use by the church staff, church council members and coordinators. Available Baptist Book Store \$1.75.

## Brotherhood

### Man And Boy Rallies



Rev. James E. Smith, pastor of First Baptist Church, Mendenhall, Mississippi, will be on all of our Man and Boy Rally programs, with the exception of the one at Wiggins. Brother Smith has previously been associated with our rallies in the same relationship that he will have this year. He is an unusual skillful slight of hand artist and is capable of shaping his program in such a way as to extend a real challenge to both men and boys. However if he only used his time in pure entertainment it would be time well spent for any group of men and boys.

#### PROGRAM

4:30—Registration  
5:00—Music  
5:10—Devotional  
5:20—Announcements  
5:40—Music  
6:00—Supper & Special Fellowship Period  
7:20—Music  
7:25—Royal Ambassador Emphasis  
8:05—Music  
8:15—Missionary Message  
8:55—Adjourn

### "Sing-Out" Group To Sing At Southaven

On March 20, the James D. Watson "Sing-Out Group" travels to Southaven, Mississippi, for a "Sing - Out" sponsored by First Baptist Church of that city. Rev. Don Cooper, pastor. On April 3, a "Sing-Out" is scheduled for Indianola, sponsored by Fairview Baptist Church, Rev. W. L. Day, pastor. And on April 10, the "Group" journeys to Terry, for a "Sing - Out"

sponsored by Terry Church, Rev. John Langlois, pastor. The "Group" is a youth division of the James D. Watson, Church Evangelism Association, of Indianola.

The Sing-Out Group, of Indianola, conducted a "Youth Sing-Out" in the city park at Des Arc, Arkansas, on February 27.

Large numbers of young people from the surrounding area attended the 10:00 PM outdoor service. Several

commitments to Christ were registered.

The "Youth Sing-Out Group" is composed of seventeen outstanding Christian young people of local churches in a twenty-five mile radius of Indianola. They utilize various musical instruments, personal testimonies, and contemporary Christian music in their presentation of the Gospel. While passing out tracts and sharing personal testimony to the meaning of Christ in their lives, they engaged in soul-winning.

The gifts to Foreign Missions Week of Prayer (Lottie Moon Christmas Offering) are listed as received February 28 with 1353 churches participating. At that time total gifts amounted to \$760,868.59.

## REVIVAL RESULTS

Union Church, Tyertown: March 14; six for baptism; many rededications; evangelist, Rev. S. A. Adkins; singer, David Grimalley; pianist, Joe Nell Grubbs; organist, Rev. A. G. Gray.

# SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

THE INTERNATIONAL LESSON — LIFE AND WORK CURRICULUM

## God Gave His Son

By Clifton J. Allen  
Isaiah 53; Matthew 27

The death of Christ was the focal point of God's redeeming work. All the events in the story of God and his people, from the beginning of time, pointed toward the cross; all subsequent events point back to the cross on which Jesus suffered for the sins of the world. The Old Testament message is summarized in the prophetic word of Isaiah 53, telling of one who would bear "the iniquity of us all." The New Testament message is summarized in the sublime truth, "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son." It is not enough to review the facts about Jesus' death; we must try to gain a fresh understanding of the meaning of his death.

### The Lesson Explained Despised and Rejected

The suffering of Jesus, of course, did not begin at Calvary. It had timeless dimensions. But we need especially to see Jesus' death as the culmination of unbelief and rejection by his own people. Jesus suffered the mockery of a trial before the Sanhedrin, during which he was lied about, slapped and treated insolently, derided and humiliated. Falsely charged with blasphemy and judged to be worthy of death, Jesus was turned over by the chief priests and elders to Pilate, the governor, who made repeated efforts to release him as innocent of any wrong. A notorious prisoner, Barabbas, was preferred for release, and Pilate in weakness and cowardice turned Jesus over to the soldiers to be scourged and to be crucified. There was unspeakable anguish of soul and suffering of spirit in being despised and rejected. He was rejected by the very people who claimed to believe in God and who professed hope in a Messiah.

### Crucified and Buried Verses 35-50

On Golgotha, outside the city wall, the soldiers nailed Jesus to the cross, set it up where all could see, and then crucified two robbers, one on either side of Jesus. He refused the drink which would have dulled his consciousness to pain. The charge above the cross of Jesus — written by Pilate in Hebrew and Latin and Greek (John 19:20-22) — was, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." He is the King indeed of the true Israel and will one day be known as King of kings and Lord of lords! The crowds passing by taunted Jesus to prove that he was the Son of God by coming down from the cross. The religious leaders mocked him — but praised him magnificently though unknowingly — by saying, "He saved others; himself he cannot save." And in all this, at first, the two robbers joined — one of whom, however, later turned his reviling to penitent confession. And from noon until three o'clock there was a strange darkness over the land, a symbol of the darkness of evil. The awful cry of desolation from the cross, beyond our understanding, declared in some way God's separation from the Son as he was made sin for us. Then Jesus yielded up his spirit in death.

Matthew tells also of the burial of Jesus. There were witnesses to his death and witnesses to his burial. He was buried in the tomb of Joseph, a rich man from Arimathea, himself a disciple of Jesus. A great stone was placed at the door of the tomb. And then the soldiers came and sealed it and continued to guard it. Jesus was buried, because he was dead, really dead!

### For The Sins Of The World

Jesus was not a victim of enemies who finally "got their man." His death was not the result of a martyr spirit — a last desperate effort to vindicate himself and gain a following by suffering the most ignominious death possible. Jesus' death was, instead, the fulfillment of the eternal purpose of the Godhead. It was necessary because of the sins of the human race. It was necessary because God loved fallen humanity. It was necessary because God with infinite wisdom devised the redemption of the world through the giving of his only Son. It was necessary because Jesus himself, in fulfillment of the eternal purpose of God, voluntarily gave himself "a ransom for many."

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### Truths to Live By

God gave his Son — Every effort to understand the death of Jesus misses the mark unless it recognizes God's initiative, God's kindness, God's giving of himself through the Son. God did not act out of compulsion. He gave freely, willingly, unselfishly, compassionately, vicariously, and victoriously. This was the measure of his compassion for guilty sinners, the measure of his love for a lost world.

The power of redeeming love is at work in the world. — This is the power, when the message gets through, that captures hardened criminals or hopeless adulterers, or slaves of selfish greed or victims of vicious habits, and turns them into humble believers in Christ, claiming nothing but the assurance of his love for sinners and depending on nothing other than that the blood of Jesus Christ to cleanse from all sin.

The compulsion of the cross should lay hold on Christians. — If we yield ourselves with openness and honesty to the message and meaning of the death of Christ, his constraining love will capture our devotion and inspire the response of self-giving.

## Southern Hills To Celebrate 4th Anniversary

Southern Hills Church on Henderson Road, Jackson, was constituted March 26, 1966 with 42 charter members. Today the church membership is 244.

The 4th Anniversary Celebration will begin on Palm Sunday, March 22, and continue through Easter Sunday, March 29. There will be six guest speakers, four of whom are laymen, and two of whom are ministers.

Rev. David T. Cranford, pastor, announces the following schedule, with guest speakers, for the entire week:  
Sunday, March 22: Sunday School 9:45 a.m.; 11 a.m. Earl Cockrell of Tupelo; 12 o'clock Noon — Dinner on the Ground; 2-4 p.m. Gospel Singing; 6 p.m. Training Union; 7 p.m. the pastor will preach.

Monday, 7:00 p.m. Jerry Clower of Yazoo City; Tuesday, 7 p.m. Dr. Owen Cooper of Yazoo City; Wednesday, 7 p.m. Dr. William W. Stevens of Mississippi College; Thursday, 7 p.m. Jack Stack of Meridian; Friday, 7 p.m. Rev. Jack Cranford, pastor, New Bethlehem Church, Magee. (No Saturday services).

Sunday — 6 a.m. Sunrise Easter Services at Council School No. 2 on McCluer Road; 9:45 a.m. Sunday School; 11 a.m. the pastor will preach; 6 p.m. Training Union; 7 p.m. The Ordinance of Baptism, and The Ordinance of The Lord's Supper.

## MC Cantata Choir To Sing March 19

Mississippi College's Cantata Choir will help usher in the Easter Season with a performance of "The Passion According to St. Matthew," by Heinrich Scheutz on Thursday evening March 19.

The performance will be given in the historic Provine Chapel starting at 8 p.m. The newly installed Moller pipe organ will provide the instrumental music.

According to Dr. John Johnson, director of the choir and assistant professor of music, this is the first time this particular piece has been performed in the Jackson area.

The role of the evangelist will be sung by Steve Huey of Monticello, the recent winner of the college solo division of the Mississippi Music Teachers Association competition.

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By Bill Duncan  
Romans 14:1-23

In the virtue of service, consideration is the key to the right influence in the church. The church at Rome was a lot like our church in its diversity. The people were from many different backgrounds. There were many customs, practices, and crafts that raised a lot of questions. So Paul had to give certain principles to guide the Christians in their conduct.

There are many practical problems facing these Christians in their relationship to one another. The law of love is at the center of the principles in solving the problems of judging doubtful things and judging one another. The Christian has the law of liberty and is not bound by ritual, but by faith. Yet, because Christians are

free, they must receive one another as persons who are different.

We must begin by not having a judging spirit. Our first concern should be to judge ourselves and our conduct so that we may not become a stumbling block to our brother. Moffatt said: "Let us stop criticizing one another; rather make up your mind never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in your brother's way. I know, I am certain in the Lord Jesus, that nothing in itself is unclean; only anything is unclean for a man who considers it unclean. If your brother is being injured because you eat certain food, then you are no longer living by the rule of love. Do not let that food of yours ruin the man for whom Christ died."

There seemed to be three problems: eating of certain foods, observance of certain days, and drinking wine. The eating of meat that had been offered to idols was a problem to people who saw it as the god of the meat being consumed. The observance of the first day of the week as the day of worship was established and the Jewish people wanted to have the day of worship on the Sabbath. There were people who did not want any to drink wine.

To Paul, every problem is solved by its reference to the Lord Jesus Himself. We are to live in view of that great day when we shall stand before Christ. The legalists are weak and need to be accepted and understood. These questions were not the big doctrinal issue such as salvation and should not be blown out of proportion. What we all need to do is not argue over do's and don't's and start loving each other as a brother.

Judge not the workings of his brain and of his heart thou canst not see. What looks to thy dim eyes a strain. In God's pure light may only be A scar, brought from some well-worn field. Where thou wouldst only faint and yield

—Adelaide A. Proctor

The real need of influence is consistency. "Let not your good be evil spoken of" (V. 16). Too often people do not put the right values on things. Paul said, "The Kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost."

We need to make certain that our



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\*Converted in the Navy  
\*B.A. Mississippi College  
\*B.D. New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary  
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criterion of conduct is right. Here is one way of determining conduct in amusements. "Are they self-gratifying or God-glorifying? Edifying to others or simply entertaining to ourselves? Self or Saviour, The Rule Royal: When in doubt — don't."

What we need more and more of today is empathy. This will help us to understand other people. Empathy is putting yourself in the other fellow's shoes before judging him. We communicate more through actions and facial expressions than words. Having empathy will help us see exactly how things seem to the other person. In spreading one's influence around, one needs to be genuine, be acceptant, and be understanding.

A matter's being right or wrong will have little bearing when we act right toward our neighbors. There are areas where the question cannot be solved. But one thing is certain, we will never know the answer until the right attitude is established. Then if one is doing something that is causing his brother to find fault, or doing something that he thinks is wrong, he will be willing to stop. This right attitude should cause him to stop. We are free to act only in the way that Christ acted while on earth. Christ died not to please himself. He was willing to consider his brother. He won many men by having the right attitude toward them.

## Housekeepers Institute At Baptist Hospital

The Natchez Trace Chapter of the National Executive Housekeepers Association will sponsor an Executive Housekeepers Institute March 19-20 at Mississippi Baptist Hospital.

"The institute is open to anyone interested in institutional housekeeping," said Charles F. Carter, chapter president and director of the Building Service Department of Mississippi Baptist Hospital.

### Carmel Homecoming

Carmel Church, Monticello, will observe Homecoming Day on March 22. Rev. Maxie Nelson, a former pastor, will bring the morning and afternoon messages; Wendell Russell will direct the music.

Dinner will be served on the grounds at noon, according to Rev. Wayne Smith of New Orleans Seminary, interim pastor. Former members and pastors have a special invitation.



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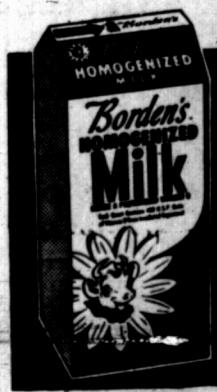
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## Devotional

## Andrew The Ordinary

By L. Dudley Wilson, Pastor  
Northminster Church, Jackson

We live in the shadow of the extraordinary. In every facet of living, the unusually successful are constantly portrayed as the images of excellence. To reach a level of satisfying, meaningful life, it is necessary to follow the example or fill the pattern set by those who have achieved eminence. This can be unsettling, to discover that one's dreams, based on another's record of accomplishment, may not possibly be fulfilled. Left without someone "reachable" with whom to identify in our search for meaning and satisfaction, it is a relatively easy matter to lose incentive and motivation. Without reasonable encouragement to translate dreams into reality, it is tempting to settle for slovenly mediocrity in one's life.

Andrew, the disciple, offers hope to every Christian needing a stimulus to strain for goals in living and service that are high but within reach. Apparently not blessed with striking ability, he appears in the New Testament as a person of ordinary characteristics who developed an enriching and helpful life. His utilization of ordinary talents suggests that the attainment of deeply satisfying life experience is not restricted to Christians of exceptional ability.

He was a sharer of the good that came to him. Discovering Jesus to be the Messiah (John 1:35-39), Andrew quickly took the good news to his brother that he might profit from the knowledge. It did not matter that his brother was Peter, a talented "leader-type" whose membership in the band of disciples would move Andrew to the shadows of recognition and leadership. Concerned to share what he had learned in his visit with Jesus, he took this quality and built his life on it.

Of the many meaningful factors included in a Christian approach to life, none exceeds in importance this one. Unrestricted by ability or status or age, the willingness to share the good with others is well within the reach of everyone. As a result, it has been, and is, at the heart of every genuine effort to minister as a Christian. An extraordinary quality, sharing, but it is not reserved for the extraordinary.

Andrew had a quiet, natural manner of introducing people to Jesus. Whether it was the lad with the lunch or Peter or the Greeks, he had an obvious facility for bringing them together with the Master. There was no special strategy, no preaching nor unusual conversation. An ordinary man revealing his relationship of greater importance by sharing it with others in a manner quite natural for him—this was Andrew.

Unfortunately, some of us have allowed the introduction of persons to Jesus to become a specialty rather than a natural experience. Reserving it for the preachers, teachers or those trained or adept in "witnessing," we have deprived this function of the free, flowing naturalness displayed by Andrew. Not intended to be artificial or contrived, this expression of sharing must be the natural outgrowth of one's experience with the Christ and his warm relationships with others.

It may be unrealistic to strive for the example of Paul the theologian, Peter the preacher and charismatic leader or Stephen the martyred. But the example of Andrew, warm Christian human being, is within the reach of everyone.

## CREDIT CARDS ADOPTED BY CHURCH

SAN JOSE, CALIF. (RNS)—A Baptist church here will attempt to boost Sunday collections through redemption of credit cards.

The members of Blue Hill Baptist church may use BankAmericard or Master Charge to make their contributions.

Before the collection basket is passed, blank charge forms will be made available at a table conveniently supplied with pens and a charge card imprinter. A churchgoer can easily fill out a form and quietly drop it into the basket as it is passed.

Tom Sheppard, airliner pilot who is a member of the congregation, suggested the credit card system. It was endorsed by the board of deacons.



Pat Alred of Grenada



Juanita Wong of Greenville

Blue Mountain  
Presents Seniors  
In Art Exhibitions

On Saturday, March 21, at 7 p. m. in the Reception Rooms of Whitfield Residence Hall, the Department of Art of Blue Mountain College will present Misses Pat Alred of Grenada, and Juanita Wong of Greenville, in their Senior Art Exhibitions. The Art Department is directed by Miss Mary E. Crenshaw.

The public is invited to attend the Senior Art Exhibitions and the reception which will be in progress as visitors leave the Exhibitions.

1ST, Wiggins  
To Sponsor  
Missionary

First Church, Wiggins recently voted to adopt L. Byron Harbin, missionary to Brazil, to sponsor in the amount of his base annual salary. Dr. Harbin and his family have departed for Sao Paulo where they will serve.

"Project Missionary" as this activity was known, began slightly over a year ago in a Men's Bible class of the church. Money for this purpose was given over and above the tithe and gradually the idea caught on throughout the church until it reached the sum of \$2,000. Plans are now underway to accumulate the second \$2,000 for this purpose.

The Foreign Mission Board was contacted, then Dr. Harbin was scheduled to visit with the church and to preach on his last Sunday in the States. A luncheon was held at the church in order for church members to meet the Harbins.

Dr. Harbin is a native of Tuscaloosa County, Ala. and received his education in the public schools of south Georgia; at Asbury and Norman Colleges, Mercer University and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. After receiving the Bachelor of Divinity degree, he went on to earn the Doctor of Theology. Mrs. Harbin is the former Dora Ann Dunkley of Beaumont, Miss. She is a graduate of William Carey College and Mather School of Nursing.

The Harbins have three children: Patricia, 8; Deborah 5; and Christopher Byron, 2.

Rev. J. Ray Grissett is pastor of the church.

Terry Church  
Calls Pastor

Terry Church has called as pastor Rev. John N. Langlois, Native of Tennessee, he is a graduate of Belmont College. After graduation from New Orleans Seminary, he was pastor of Crystal Avenue Church in Findlay, Ohio, and North Linden Church in Columbus, Ohio.

In 1968, he returned to the seminary to do work toward a Doctor of Theology degree. His doctoral work is in the field of evangelism with major emphasis in the field of preach-



Cleveland, pianist; Rev. T. C. Pinson, pastor; services on Sunday, Mar. 22, at 11 a. m. and 1:30 p. m., with lunch served at the church; services during week at 7:30 p. m.

West Laurel Church, Laurel: March 22-April 5; Rev. Mel Craft, First Church, Magee, evangelist; Herbert Greer, song leader; services during week at 7:30 p. m. and 10 a. m.; regular worship hours on Sunday; Rev. D. J. Benson, pastor.

Easthaven Church, Brookhaven: March 22-27; Rev. Kelly Dampeer, pastor, First Baptist Church, Charleston, (pictured) evangelist; Ronnie Taylor, minister of music, Easthaven, will lead the singing; noonday services from 12:05 to 12:30 Monday through Friday in the Jungle located in downtown Brookhaven; services at the church nightly at 7:30 Rev. Charles Dampeer, pastor.



Tillatoba (Yalobusha): March 27-29; weekend revival; Howard Carpenter, pictured, Northwest Mississippi Junior College, evangelist; Rev. A. M. Moore III, pastor, song leader; Miss Connie Tillman, pianist; Mrs. Harvey Darby, organist; services at 7:30 p. m. nightly, and 11 a. m. on Sunday. A big youth rally is planned to follow the Friday night service; all young people of the area are invited.



Sunshine, Jackson (Rankin County): March 22-27; Rev. D. M. Campbell, Clemson, S. C., evangelist; Jimmy Thompson, music director; Rev. Vance H. Dyess, pastor; services at 7:30 p. m.

First Church, Brandon: March 22-27; Rev. John Merritt, missionary to Italy, evangelist; Tom Larrimore, minister of music at Colonial Heights Church, Jackson, singer; Rev. Bill Duncan, pastor; services Monday-Friday at 7 a. m. and 7 p. m.; regular time on Sunday.

## Correction

William Carey College, has requested a correction in the news release of last week concerning the \$5,000 (unrestricted) gift given to the college by Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Walters of Ellisville. The gift was designated and is to be put into a permanent endowment fund.



## Noonday Services At Teen Center

EASTHAVEN CHURCH, Brookhaven, will hold pre-Easter worship services in "The Jungle" at the noon hour, 12:05-12:30, March 23-27. "The Jungle" is the teen center located in downtown Brookhaven. This will be the second year Easthaven Church, Rev. Charles Dampeer, pastor, has sponsored this ministry. Rev. Kelly Dampeer will be the preacher for the services.

Chairman Of Deacons  
Dies At Newton

James L. Nelson, Sr., chairman of deacons at First Church, Newton, died on February 21.

On February 22, the deacons of First Church, Newton, and Rev. Hardy R. Denham, Jr., pastor, adopted a resolution of tribute to the life of Mr. Nelson, speaking of him as "a leader devoted to and highly respected among his fellow church members, but first of all devoted to the service of the Lord and His church," and as a man who "exhibited the highest ideals of Christian living in his private and public life."

Mr. Nelson became a member of First, Newton, in 1951. He had since served as a member of the Brotherhood, Adult Choir, Personnel and Pulpit Committee, Church Nominating Committee, and, since his ordination in 1954, as a deacon. He had served several terms as chairman of deacons, several years as superintendent of the Junior I Department of Sunday school, and as director of the Adult Training Union.

The resolution deplored the loss of "his progressive leadership, wise counsel, and loyal friendship."

While doing graduate work at the seminary, he has served as Supervisor of Field Missions.

Mr. Langlois is married and has three children, Johnny 7, Jacque 5, and Jimmy 8 months.

Off The  
Record

A soldier, regaling a group of girls with an exaggerated account of his part in capturing a small town, said: "Then an explosion tore up the main street." The girls cried in unison, "Goodness! And what did you do?" Said the soldier's buddy, "He tore up a side street."

The butcher informed a customer: "I can't give you any more credit. Your bill is bigger than it should be." "I know that," said the customer. "Just make it out for what it should be, and I'll pay it."

Burglar: "What are you laughing at?"

Householder: "That you come at night without a light to look for money where I can't find any in broad daylight."

Just as the man of the house was leaving for the office, his wife caught him at the front door. "George, aren't you going to leave the money for that roast you ordered? And besides, I need a little extra for some shopping I plan to do today."

"Money, money, money, that's all I hear. What will you do after I'm dead? You'll probably have to beg."

"Well, dear," his wife replied, "even so, I'll be a lot better off than some women who have never had any practice."

WALTHAM YOUTH  
CHOIR TO SING  
ON TV MARCH 22

The 80-member Youth Choir, under the direction of David Grimsley, Minister of Music of Tyertown Church, will present excerpts from the Christian Folk Musical, **TELL IT LIKE IT IS**, in a video-taped program over television station WLBT Channel 3, Jackson, March 22 at 3:00 P.M.

This teen-age group has toured churches, schools and colleges in surrounding counties and Louisiana. Many young people have made commitments dedicating their lives to God at these presentations.

Dr. Johnnie L. Brigman is pastor of the Tyertown Church.

We do not glory in his (John Mark's) weakness; we take heart in the knowledge of what Christ can do with the most human of us. — Richard A. Johns in "Return to Heroism," Broadman Press.

## MUSIC

Teacher Training Institutes  
For Music DirectorsFestus Robertson  
BSSB, NashvilleHarry Thompson  
First, BrookhavenJerry Talley  
Oak Forest, Jackson

March 26 — First Church, Clinton and Temple Church, Hattiesburg, March 27 — Oakhurst Church, Clarksdale and First Church, Houston. These conferences will begin at 10:00 a. m. and conclude at 3:30 p. m.

Festus Robertson of the Sunday School Board's Music Department will be leading prospective teachers of the book "Church Music Administration" in their discussions at First Church, Clinton and Oakhurst, Clarksdale.

Harry Thompson, minister of music, First, Brookhaven, will be leading the discussion of this same book at Temple Church, Hattiesburg, and Jerry Talley, minister of music, Oak Forest Church, Jackson, will be in charge of the discussion at First, Houston.

Those who have been selected by their association or church to teach the general administration books should attend this Teacher Training Clinic. However, attendance at these training sessions is open to any adults who may be able to attend.

COOPERATIVE  
PROGRAM '70More People  
In Mississippi  
Prefer The  
Cooperative  
Program  
Why?

- (1). They Get More For Their Mission Dollar
- (2). They Prefer A Proven Plan
- (3). They Know It Stabilizes The Lord's Work
- (4). They Want Their Gifts Handled Honestly
- (5). They Appreciate The Wisdom In The Multitude Who Plan And Guide It
- (6). They Want To Be A Part Of Something Big For God
- (7). They Know It Seeks To Win A Lost World

Those Who Know The Cooperative  
Program Best Support It Most!  
Think About It!